Setting up of new wind Power Projects

2367. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is encouraging for setting up of new Wind Power Projects;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the names of companies who have shown interest in Wind Power Projects and have been given financial assistance by Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is encouraging setting up of wind power projects by providing concessional import duty on certain components of wind electric generator, excise duty exemption, ten years' tax holiday on income generated from wind power projects, benefit of accelerated depreciation and loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and other financial institutions. Wind power is being given preferential tariff in potential States. Continuous efforts are under way to identify new wind power potential areas through wind resource assessment studies and R&D by the Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET), Chennai, which is an autonomous institution under the administrative control of this Ministry.

(c) Wind Farms are set up commercially through private investment. There are about 1700 private investors who have already set up wind farm projects. More such private investors are coming forward for setting up wind farm projects. Government is not providing any financial assistance for such projects.

Steering Group on hydrogen energy

2368. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a steering group on hydrogen energy;

(b) if so, the composition of the group;

(c) whether the group submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features of the reports;

(e) whether Government propose to implement the recommendations of the report;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure/investment involved therein; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have set up a National Hydrogen Energy Board in October, 2003 is chaired by the Minister for Non-Conventional Energy Sources. The Board in its first meeting held on 23rd February, 2004 has constituted a Steering Group on Hydrogen Energy to prepare the National Hydrogen Energy Road Map. The Steering Group consists of Shri Ratan N. Tata, Chairman, Tata Sons as Chairman and Shri Anand Mahindra, Vice Chairman, Mahindra & Mahindra as Co-Chairman. Members of the Group include Dr. K. Kasturiranagan, Member of Parliament and former Chairman, ISRO; Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. S. Banerjee, Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC); Prof. O.N. Srivastava, Banaras Hindu University; Chairman & Managing Director, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL); Chairman, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC); and President, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM).

(c) and (d) The Group has submitted its Report to the Minister for Non-Conventional Energy Sources on 21st November, 2005. The National Hydrogen Energy Road Map envisages development of the total hydrogen energy system including hydrogen production, its storage, transport and delivery, applications, hydrogen safety, codes and standards, public awareness and capacity building. Based on the development of the total hydrogen energy system, the Road map has set two major goals namely introduction of one million hydrogen fuelled vehicles on Indian roads and installation of decentralized hydrogen based power generation of 1,000 MW aggregate capacity in the country, both by 2020.

(e) to (g) The Report on the National Hydrogen Energy Road Map prepared by the Steering Group on Hydrogen Energy would be placed before the National Hydrogen Energy Board for comments and thereafter processed for necessary approvals.

Loan sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh by IREDA

2369. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 83 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd November, 2005 and state:

(a) what are the reasons that IREDA which has sanctioned to Andhra Pradesh an amount of Rs. 77.05 crores for 2004-05 disbursement was only Rs. 26 crores; and

(b) the details of guidelines issued for sanction of loan by IREDA and other agencies for setting up of non-conventional energy projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) The disbursement of sanctioned loans is made after fulfillment of certain conditions by the borrowers. The gap in sanction and disbursement is normally due to time taken by the borrowers in obtaining statutory clearances, signing of power purchase agreement, completion of legal documentation and creation of security in accordance with the Loan Agreement.

During 2004-05, loans amounting to Rs. 77.05 crore were sanctioned for two small hydro power (SHP) and two energy efficiency and conservation projects in Andhra Pradesh. The loans sanctioned for SHP projects could not be disbursed during 2004-05 because of time taken by the borrowers in completion of necessary conditions for disbursement. The energy efficiency and conservation projects were sanctioned on 29/3/2005 and hence the disbursement was not made during 2004-05. The disbursement of Rs. 26 crore during 2004-05 pertains to projects sanctioned in the previous years.